co-operation between neighbouring countries, etc.

Setting up of spinning mills in Orissa

*232. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up a spinning mill at Phulabani in Orissa;

(b) if so, the site selected therefor;

(c) what are the reasons for the delay in the establishment of the spinning mill at that place; and

(d) what are the other places in Orissa where spinning mills are proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (d) The Central Government do not directly set up spinning units.

M/s. Industrial Promotion & Investment Corporation of Orissa Ltd. (IPICOL) hold a Letter of Intent for setting up a spinning unit in Tehsil Boud of Phulabani District. They have reported that the implementation of the project has been delayed because All India Financial Institutions have not yet agreed to finance the project.

According to available information, letters of intent have also been obtained for setting up spinning units in Bolangir and Balasore districts.

Purchase of iron ore by Rumania from India

@*232-A. SHRI TALARI MONOHAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rumania have agreed to buy iron ore from India during 1988-89; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) MMTC has concluded a contract with M/s. Mineral Import Export, a State enterprise of Romania, for export of 5 million tonnes of iron ore during 1988-89 which includes an optional quantity of 1.25 million tonnes.

Rubber plantation in Orissa

*233. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rubber Board has opened a Zonal Office at Bhubneswar, Orissa for encouraging rubber plantation by providing all possible assistance;

(b) if so, which agencies would take up plantation in the State and the districts selected for this purpose; and

(c) whether any funds have been allocated to provide incentives to the growers?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Orissa Forest Corporation, the Orissa Plantation Development Corporation and the Similaipahar Development Corporation have already started the work on Development of Rubber Plantation in Orissa. The Government of Orissa has also decided that Joint Sector Corporations would be permitted to establish Rubber plantations in the state. The Districts of Mayurbhanj, Puri, Balasore, Dhenkanal Cuttack and Ganjam have been selected for rubber plantations by the Rubber Board.

(c) Yes, Sir. Rubber growers in Orissa are being given financial assistance under the Rubber Platation Development Scheme of Rubber Board which include cash subsidy, interest subsidy, additional assistance

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@Previously Starred Question 194, transferred from the 6th May, 1988.